

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE BILL 658**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Jeff Essmann, on April 27, 2009 at  
2:00 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Jeff Essmann, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)  
Sen. Kim Gillan (D)  
Rep. Bob Lake (R)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Lee Heiman, Legislative Services Division  
Debra L. Polhemus, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: NONE

Executive Action: HB 658 ~ DO CONCUR AS AMENDED  
(SENATE VOTE UNANIMOUS, HOUSE  
VOTE TIED)

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 658**

**Discussion:**

00:00:29 Lee Heiman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a01)**  
00:02:50 Chairman Essmann  
00:02:58 Rep. Barrett  
00:04:20 Chairman Essmann  
00:05:35 Sen. Gebhardt  
00:05:50 Sen. Gillan  
  
00:06:23 Recess  
  
00:33:46 Reconvene

**Discussion:**

00:33:59 Rep. Barrett  
00:34:30 Chairman Essmann  
00:34:42 Rep. Lake  
00:35:03 Chairman Essmann  
  
00:36:14 Recess  
  
00:36:51 Reconvene

**Discussion:**

00:37:31 Lee Heiman, LSD  
**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a02)**  
**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a03)**  
00:39:09 Dan Bucks, Director, Department of Revenue (DOR)  
  
00:43:45 **Motion:** Rep. Barrett moved that **HB 658 BE AMENDED.**  
(See Exhibit #3)

**Discussion:**

00:44:05 Sen. Gebhardt  
00:44:41 Dan Bucks, DOR  
00:45:31 Sen. Gebhardt  
00:45:40 Dan Bucks  
00:45:49 Alan Peura, Deputy Director, DOR  
00:46:54 Rep. Barrett  
00:47:09 Alan Peura  
00:47:41 Chairman Essmann  
00:48:16 Alan Peura  
00:48:24 Rep. Lake

**Discussion:** (Con't)

00:49:00 Rep. Barrett

00:49:10 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by Senate members and House of Representative members by roll call vote.

**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a04)**

Roll Call Vote

00:50:07 **Motion:** Sen. Gebhardt moved that **HB 658 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

00:50:24 Rep. Jopek

00:50:54 Sen. Gillan

00:51:42 David Ewer, Director, Budget and Program Planning Office, Office of the Governor

**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a05)**

00:52:48 Chairman Essmann

00:53:07 Sen. Gillan

**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a06)**

00:54:25 Lee Heiman

00:54:49 Chairman Essmann

00:55:02 Sen. Gebhardt

00:55:15 Lee Heiman

00:55:26 Chairman Essmann

00:55:46 **Motion:** Sen. Gillan moved that **HB 658 BE AMENDED (HB065872.alh)** plus conceptually adding that funding be contingent voidance upon appropriations in HB2.  
(See Exhibit #6)

**Discussion:**

00:56:41 Sen. Gebhardt

00:57:01 Sen. Gillan

00:57:29 **Vote:** Motion carried with Rep. Jopek voting no.

**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a07)**

Roll Call Vote

00:58:50 **Motion:** Sen. Gebhardt moved that **HB 658 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

00:59:07 Rep. Jopek  
01:01:43 Sen. Gillan  
01:03:17 Rep. Lake  
01:04:20 Rep. Barrett  
01:05:32 Sen. Gebhardt  
01:06:17 Chairman Essmann

01:07:24 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by Senate committee members and tied with House of Representative members Rep. Jopek and Barrett voting no. HB 658 will advance to the House Floor "without recommendation" and will be carried on the Senate Floor by Sen. Essmann.

**EXHIBIT (frs90hb0658a08)**

**Discussion:**

01:07:57 Rep. Jopek  
01:08:05 Chairman Essmann  
01:08:29 Lee Heiman

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 2:55 P.M.

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Debra L. Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([frs90hb0658aad.pdf](#))**